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HOUSE MEMORIAL 34

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Pauline J. Ponce

A MEMORIAL

**RECOGNIZING BENJAMIN T. WAKASHIGE FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED
SERVICE TO NEW MEXICO.**

**WHEREAS, Benjamin T. Wakashige, who has served as the
state librarian for New Mexico since July 1998, will leave his
position in May 2003 to take a position as the director of the
library at Pacific university in Forest Grove, Oregon; and**

**WHEREAS, New Mexicans will miss Benjamin T. Wakashige, his
unique perspective, unwavering support for library issues, no-
nonsense approach to library issues, sense of humor, candor and
honesty; and**

**WHEREAS, Benjamin T. Wakashige demonstrated his commitment
to New Mexico state library staff and the community alike by
being a true and good public servant willing to address
challenging and unpopular issues; and**

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1 WHEREAS, Benjamin T. Wakashige served as the supervisor of
2 the state library's library for the blind and physically
3 handicapped, worked in the development of community libraries
4 in nine pueblos in New Mexico and served on library boards in
5 Zuni, Rio Rancho and Silver City; and

6 WHEREAS, Benjamin T. Wakashige challenged the library
7 community and himself to make careful and responsible decisions
8 on diverse issues; and

9 WHEREAS, Benjamin T. Wakashige served as the president of
10 the New Mexico library association, as director of the library
11 at Albuquerque academy and as president of the New Mexico
12 consortium of academic libraries; and

13 WHEREAS, without public-minded citizens like Benjamin T.
14 Wakashige, local governments would be hard pressed to deliver
15 the services that residents demand and deserve; and

16 WHEREAS, it is people like Benjamin T. Wakashige who give
17 unselfishly of their time and energy, frequently at great
18 personal sacrifice, for the benefit of the state of New Mexico
19 and their communities that help make the state's libraries
20 unique and valuable resources; and

21 WHEREAS, Benjamin T. Wakashige's service was performed
22 without adequate recognition being sought or received; and

23 WHEREAS, Benjamin T. Wakashige's unceasing efforts have
24 greatly assisted all communities in New Mexico and have helped
25 bring about the fine library facilities, resources and quality

1 of life that all residents of New Mexico enjoy;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that its sincere
4 gratitude and appreciation be expressed to Benjamin T.
5 Wakashige for his many dedicated years of service to New
6 Mexico; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
8 transmitted to Benjamin T. Wakashige.

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